

Forcing Wireless Internet Service Providers to pay Universal Service Fund Contributions would be unwise and unjust to the cause of fostering competition. With today's dragging economy and failing technology industry, the FCC needs to seriously consider the consequences that may come of enforcing the USF upon Wireless Access Providers.

An advantage in exempting Wireless Access Providers from contributing to the USF would be the deployment of this technology in a more timely manner. The ILEC's would like nothing more than to either prevent this growth or slow it down in such a way as to make it less competitive to their own products and services. Such fears are reasonable in that ILEC's have never seen as much competition from CLEC's as they did due to the Telecom Act of 1996. However, competition has begun to dwindle. At the time of this writing, Worldcom's stock is at \$2.19 per share. A substantial drop from \$64.00 per share in 1999. CLEC's and other forms of CLEC's such as Wireless Access Providers are only going to be able to compete if the playing field is level. The ability to provide wireless access without hindrance will mean just that.

Further, by not hindering Wireless Access Providers Universal Access will become more of a reality in that the coverage from this form of technology is much larger and less expensive to deploy than wire based infrastructures. The ILEC's have agreed to pay contributions to the USF for some time now, and yet there are still American citizens without telephone service because the ILEC's don't find it profitable to build out in those areas. This creates a problem in our democratic way of life, in that there are some Americans whose voices cannot be heard.

Help Wireless Access Providers help you in providing Universal Service to all Americans, by forcing them to pay contributions that will only hinder their growth!!!